

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 15975 051033Z
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ESCAP, EWWT, ETRN
SUBJ: VISIT OF ESCAP SHIPPING CONSULTANT TO U.S.

FOR IO/IEP

1. ESCAP SECRETARIAT HAS SELECTED MR. S.S. GILL, JOINT SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, AS A CONSULTANT,
TO MAKE A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FREIGHT BOOKING AND SHIP CHARTER-
ING PRACTICES AND THE ACTIVITIES OF INTERMEDIARIES IN THE
DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF SHIPS.

2. ESCAP HAS PREPARED A ROUND THE WORLD ITINERARY FOR MR. GILL
WHO WILL VISIT ESTABLISHED WORLD CENTERS IN FREIGHT BOOKING
ANDSHIP CHARTERING PRACTICES INCLUDING NEW YORK, ETA 25 JUNE AT
1820 ON PA 800 AND WASHINGTON, ETA 28 JUNE AT 0920 ON NW 3. HE
DEPARTS 29 JUNE AT 2030 ON PA 106 FOR LONDON. MR. GILL IS HOPING
TO INTERVIEW SENIOR EXECUTIVES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO
ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH COMMERCIAL PRACTICES AND EXISTING LEGIS-
LATION REGULATING SUCH PRACTICES.

3. TENTATIVE CONTENTS OF STUDY MR. GILL IS UNDERTAKING
IS AS FOLLOWS:

A) INTRODUCTION: INTERESTS OF SHIPPERS AND SHIPOWNERS.
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 15975 051033Z

B) EXISTENCE OF AN IMBALANCE IN THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY
OF SHIPPING SERVICES.

C) THE ROLE OF THE INTERMEDIARY AGENCIES.

D) EXISTING PROCEDURES OF CHANNELING, CONSOLIDATION
(AGGREGATION) AND BOOKING OF CARGO.

E) PROBLEMS FACED BY SHIPPERS IN PROMOTING THE EXPORT
OF NON-TRADITIONAL AND VOLUE-ADDED ITEMS.

F) FREIGHT BOOKING PROCTICES AFFECTING INTERESTS OF SHIPPERS AND SHPOWNERS.

G) THE IMPACT OF FLY-BY-NIGHT OPERATORS ON SHIPPING SERVICES.

H) CONCLUDIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RATIONAL FREIGHT BOOKING PRACTICES.

4. ESCAP HAS ASKED THAT WE ASSIST MR. GILL IN MAKING APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS IN NEW YORK AND WAVSHINGTON IN ORDER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF HIS TIME, TWO DAYS IN EACH CITY. SECRETARIAT ALSO ASKED THAT MR. GILL BE MET AT THE AIRPORT AND ACCOMODATED. WE INFORMED SECRETARIAT THAT HE SHOULD MAKE HIS OWN AIRPORT AND HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS BUT THAT WE WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT OF MR. GILL'S VISIT AND SEEK TO FACILITATE HIS MEETING APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. ONCE MR. GILL HAS CONFIRMED HOTEL BOOKINGS, WE WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT.

5. MR. GILL REPRESENTED INDIA AT THE ESCAP COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS IN 1976 AND IS KNOWN TO MR. VOYCE MACK AT DOT. BELIEVE MR. MACK, OR THE DOT STAFF, MIGHT BE HILPFUL TO MR. GILL'S MISSION. PLEASE ADVISE.
WHITEHOUSE

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